

IN THE CLAIMS

1 -3.(cancelled)

4. (Previously amended) The cartridge of claim 9, further characterised in that said rectangular vapor exit aperture is adapted for receiving a removable lid which may open said rectangular vapor aperture.

5. (Previously amended) The cartridge of claim 10, further including a removable lid which may open said rectangular vapor exit aperture.

6-8.(cancelled)

9.(currently amended) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace comprising:

an elongate bottom wall;

a left-side wall;

a right-side wall;

an elongate front wall, and;

an elongate back wall, said walls being joined so as to define an elongate, substantially rectangular box, said substantially rectangular box having a width approximately equal to a length of one of either the front wall or the back wall, and having a depth approximately equal to one of either the left side wall or the right side wall, the bottom, right-side, left -side, front and back walls defining therebetween a fuel-receiving chamber filled with a gel fuel said gel fuel emitting flammable vapors for combustion,

said fuel cartridge further comprising a noncombustible, flat top wall, said top wall being rigidly joined to the left, right, front and back walls and extending parallel to the bottom wall to enclose therebetween said fuel-receiving chamber, and said top wall being imperforate except for comprising at least one elongate, rectangular vapor exit aperture extending longitudinally therethrough and being of predetermined,

constant size;

said vapor exit aperture communicating with said fuel receiving chamber and permitting the exit of said flammable vapors from said fuel receiving chamber through said rectangular vapor exit aperture;

said top wall forming noncombustible vapor restrictors which extend, rigidly, from each of the front, back, left and right walls to said rectangular vapor exit aperture, the cartridge being self-regulating by said vapor restrictors so that a visible, elongate, rectangular flame pattern of predetermined size and shape corresponding to a size and shape of said at least one exit aperture is produced throughout combustion.

10. (Currently amended) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace comprising:

a noncombustible housing having an elongate, rectangular bottom wall and an elongate, rectangular front wall, an elongate, rectangular back wall and elongate, opposite side walls, upstanding to a common height from the bottom wall to provide an elongate, imperforate, box-like, fuel receiving chamber, open at a top, and a flat top wall rigidly joined to the front, back and side walls to extend longitudinally across the chamber top, and a gel fuel which emits flammable vapors for combustion filling the chamber,

the top wall defining a elongate, rectangular vapor exit aperture extending longitudinally centrally along the chamber and surrounded by a an imperforate vapor restrictor so that said vapor exit aperture communicates with said fuel receiving chamber and permits exit of said flammable vapors from said fuel receiving chamber through said rectangular vapor exit aperture, the cartridge being self-regulating by said vapor restrictors so that a visible, elongate, rectangular flame pattern of predetermined size and shape corresponding to a size and shape of said at least one exit aperture is produced throughout combustion.